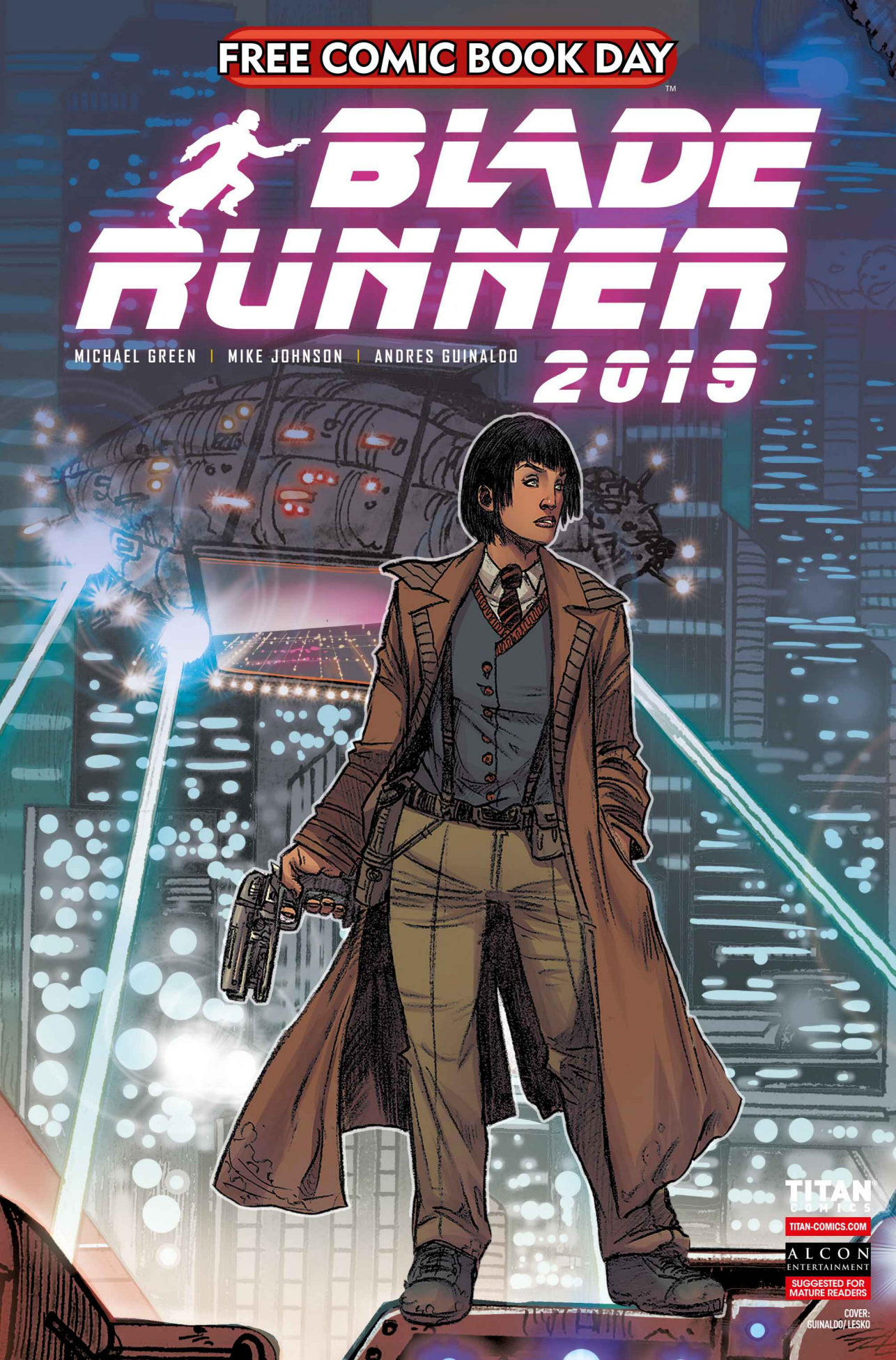
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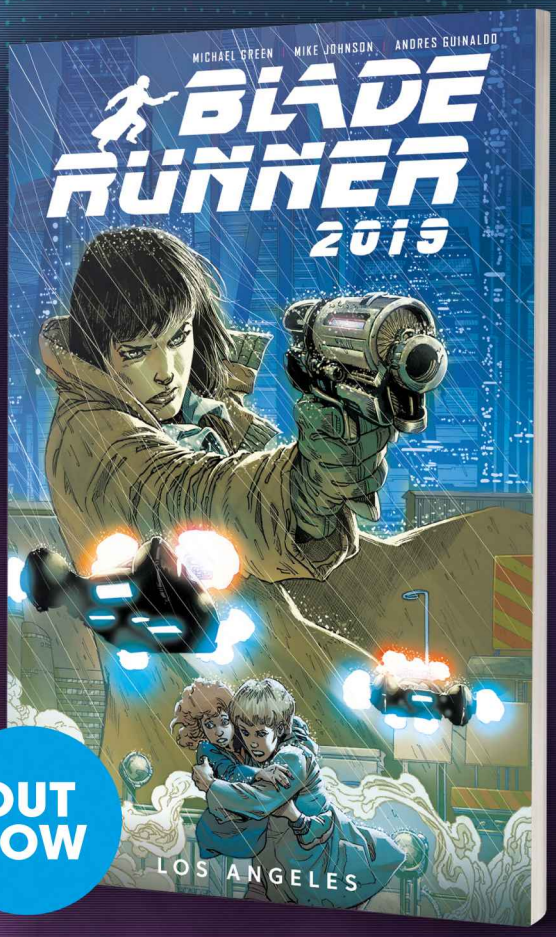
RETURN TO THE WORLD OF

BLADE RUNNER 2019



OUT NOW

"SIMPLY PERFECT."

BIG COMIC PAGE

THE FIRST ORIGINAL COMIC SERIES SET IN THE ICONIC NEO-NOIR WORLD OF BLADE RUNNER.

WRITERS

MICHAEL GREEN
(co-screenwriter for *Blade Runner 2049*)

MIKE JOHNSON
(Star Trek)

ARTIST

ANDRES GUINALDO
(Justice League Dark, Captain America)

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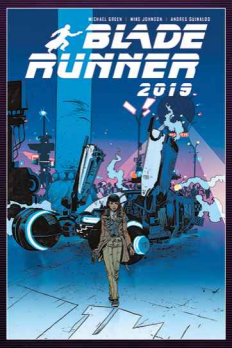

Blade Runner 2019
Vol 2 – Off-World
September 2020

Blade Runner: Vol. 1
Artist's Edition
November 2020

ALCON PUBLISHING

AVAILABLE DIGITALLY

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TITAN COMICS

Written by
Michael Green & Mike Johnson

Art by
Andres Guinaldo

Colors by
Marco Lesko

Lettering by
Jim Campbell

Edited by
David Leach

This issue is respectfully dedicated to the memory of the Visual Futurist, Syd Mead, who sadly died on December 30, 2019.
His singular vision continues to inspire the Blade Runner comic series.

BLADE RUNNER 2019: FREE COMIC BOOK DAY ISSUE, 2020. Published by Titan Comics, a division of Titan Publishing Group, Ltd. 144 Southwark Street, London SE1 0UP. Titan Comics is a registered trademark of Titan Publishing Group, Ltd. All rights reserved. (c) 2020 – Blade Runner 2019 and all related marks and characters are trademarks and copyrights of Alcon ® Publishing. Licensed by Alcon ®Publishing, LCC. All Rights Reserved.
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Early in the 21st Century, THE TYRELL CORPORATION advanced robot evolution into the NEXUS phase – a being virtually identical to a human – known as a REPLICANT.

The early Nexus models were intended to reassure the public – and corporate interests – that Replicants were viable replacements to perform jobs considered too hazardous or mundane for humans.

In LOS ANGELES, a child was diagnosed with a rare spinal affliction. Her mother departed for an OFF-WORLD COLONY, hoping to find employment to support her daughter back home. She was never heard from again.

The growth of Off-World colonies fueled the rapid development and construction of new Nexus models. By the time NEXUS 5 Replicants were ready, they were superior in strength and agility, and at least equal in intelligence, to the genetic engineers who created them.

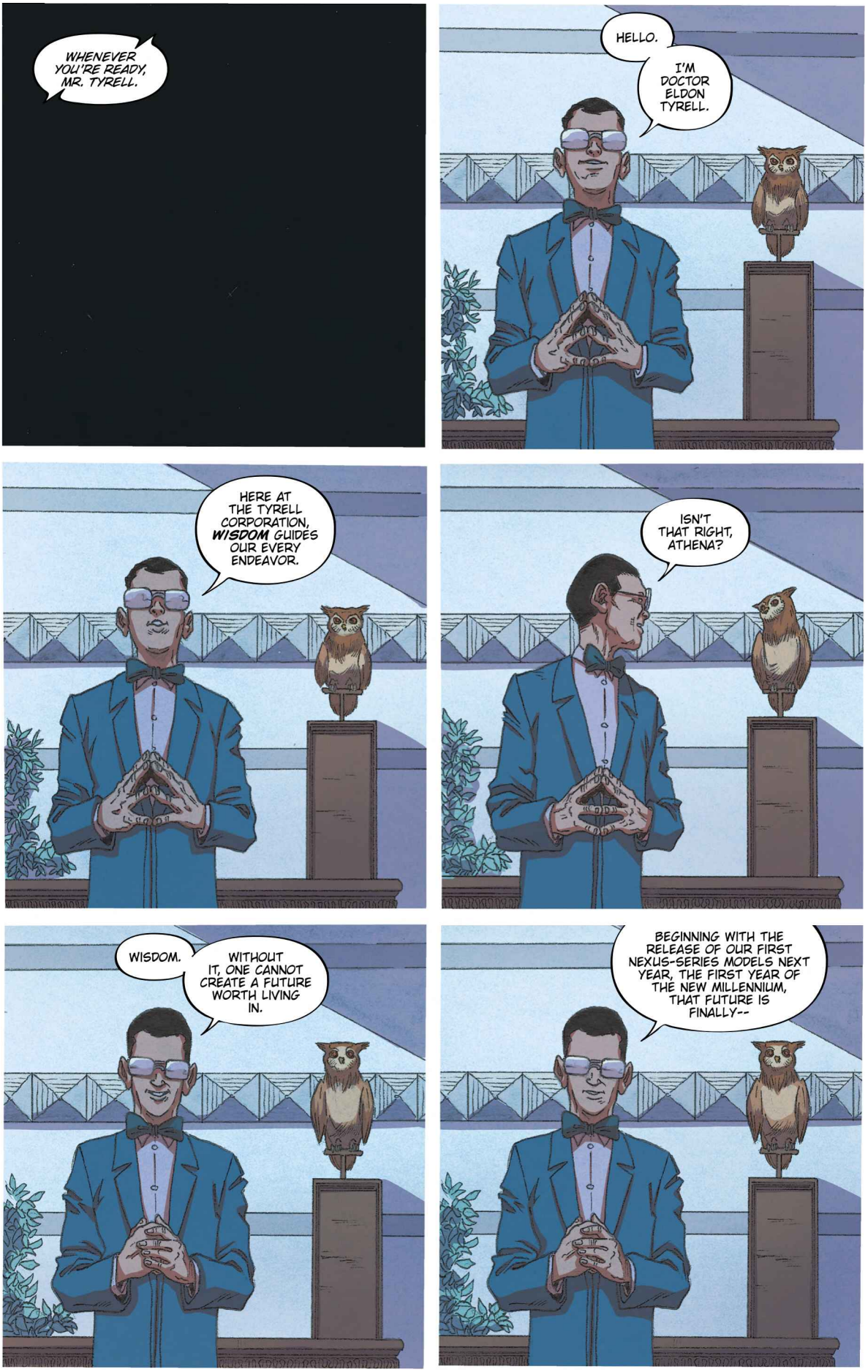
The girl was raised by her grandmother. Over time, she learned to survive on the crowded streets of Los Angeles, among those too poor and infirm to leave Earth.

After a bloody mutiny by a NEXUS 6 combat team in an Off-world colony, Replicants were declared illegal on Earth – under penalty of death.

Special police squads – BLADE RUNNER UNITS – had orders to shoot to kill, upon detection, any trespassing Replicant.

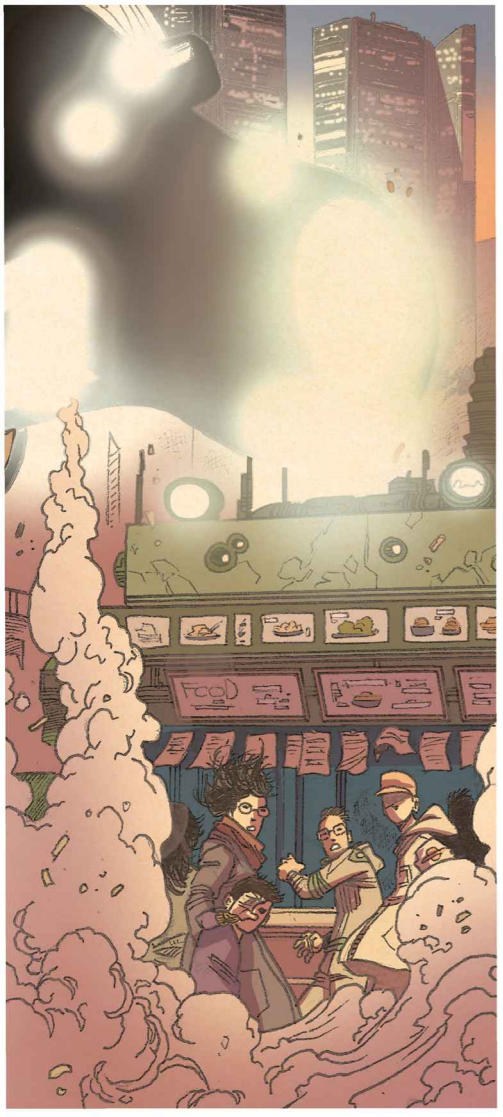
The girl, now grown, calls herself ASH.

She is the most capable Blade Runner in the city.


WHENEVER YOU'RE READY, MR. TYRELL.
HELLO.
I'M DOCTOR ELDON TYRELL.
HERE AT THE TYRELL CORPORATION, WISDOM GUIDES OUR EVERY ENDEAVOR.
ISN'T THAT RIGHT, ATHENA?
WISDOM.
WITHOUT IT, ONE CANNOT CREATE A FUTURE WORTH LIVING IN.
BEGINNING WITH THE RELEASE OF OUR FIRST NEXUS-SERIES MODELS NEXT YEAR, THE FIRST YEAR OF THE NEW MILLENNIUM, THAT FUTURE IS FINALLY--

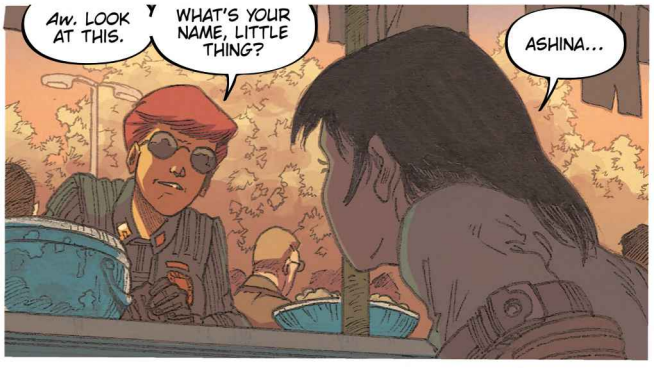
LOS ANGELES 2000

"I SEE YOU, AAHNA."
YOU HAVE TO LET THEM COOL OR YOU'LL SET FIRE TO YOUR TONGUE...
...A FIRE SO GREAT THAT NOT EVEN VAYU HIMSELF COULD PUT IT OUT!
--OH!



STAY CLOSE, ASHINA.

HAVEN'T SEEN YOU HERE BEFORE. GOOD. NEED MORE INDIAN OPTIONS.
WE'LL TAKE TWO CHICKEN BIRYANIS.
YES, CERTAINLY.


Aw. LOOK AT THIS.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, LITTLE THING?
ASHINA...

YEAH? AND WHAT ARE YOU GONNA GROW UP TO BE, ASHINA?
A DOCTOR.

LET'S GO.
EXCUSE ME, OFFICERS...
...YOUR PAYMENT?

Oh. NO, HONEY.
THESE ARE ON THE HOUSE.
...I DO NOT UNDERSTAND?
YOU'RE NEW. SO I'LL EXPLAIN IT THIS ONE TIME.
YOU FEED US, AND WE DON'T, OOPS, DISCOVER YOUR PERMIT'S FAKE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO GO BACK TO PEDDLING LITTLE ASHINA HERE FOR RENT MONEY.
FRESHLY BAKED!
IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE TO SERVE YOU.
I DON'T LIKE THEM, NANI.
THERE IS NO LIKING OR DISLIKING, ASHINA.
THEY WATCH OVER US FROM ABOVE, AND WHEN THEY DESCEND, WE MUST DO THEIR BIDDING. AS IT HAS EVER BEEN...
...AS IT EVER WILL.

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

ATTENDING:
Dr. Eldon Tyrell, Founder & CEO
Rhea McCallister, General Counsel
Dr. Charles Edevane, Head of Project Nexus

DATE & TiME:
July 31, 2009
4:00 PM PDT

[Ms. McCallister relays information concerning non-relevant legal matters.]

Tyrell: Then let us get to the matter at hand. What happened, Charles?

Edevane:
We're still collating and analyzing the data, but it appears to have been a malfunction in the prefrontal cortex, the, the bio-electrics we're seeing are--

Tyrell:
What happened, Charles? Not the mathematics. Let's begin with the facts. Let's begin with the name of the dead.

Edevane:
It's, well as you know it's, it's Lydia. [pause] it's Lydia Kine, from my lab.

Tyrell:
And the model number of the assailant?

Edevane:
Nexus 4-331575.

Tyrell:
Had model number 4-331575 previously displayed any aggressive tendencies?

Edevane:
No, and I should make it clear that this was a pleasure model, not combat…

Tyrell:
[interrupts] A pleasure model three days from delivery, is that right?

McCallister:
That's right. We've refunded the customer and rescheduled delivery of a replacement, gratis.

Tyrell:
Because you can understand my concern, Charles.

Edevane:
Yes.

Tyrell:
Because these new Nexus 4 models are more than just the most advanced, the most [pause] exquisite machines ever designed.

Edevane:
Yes.

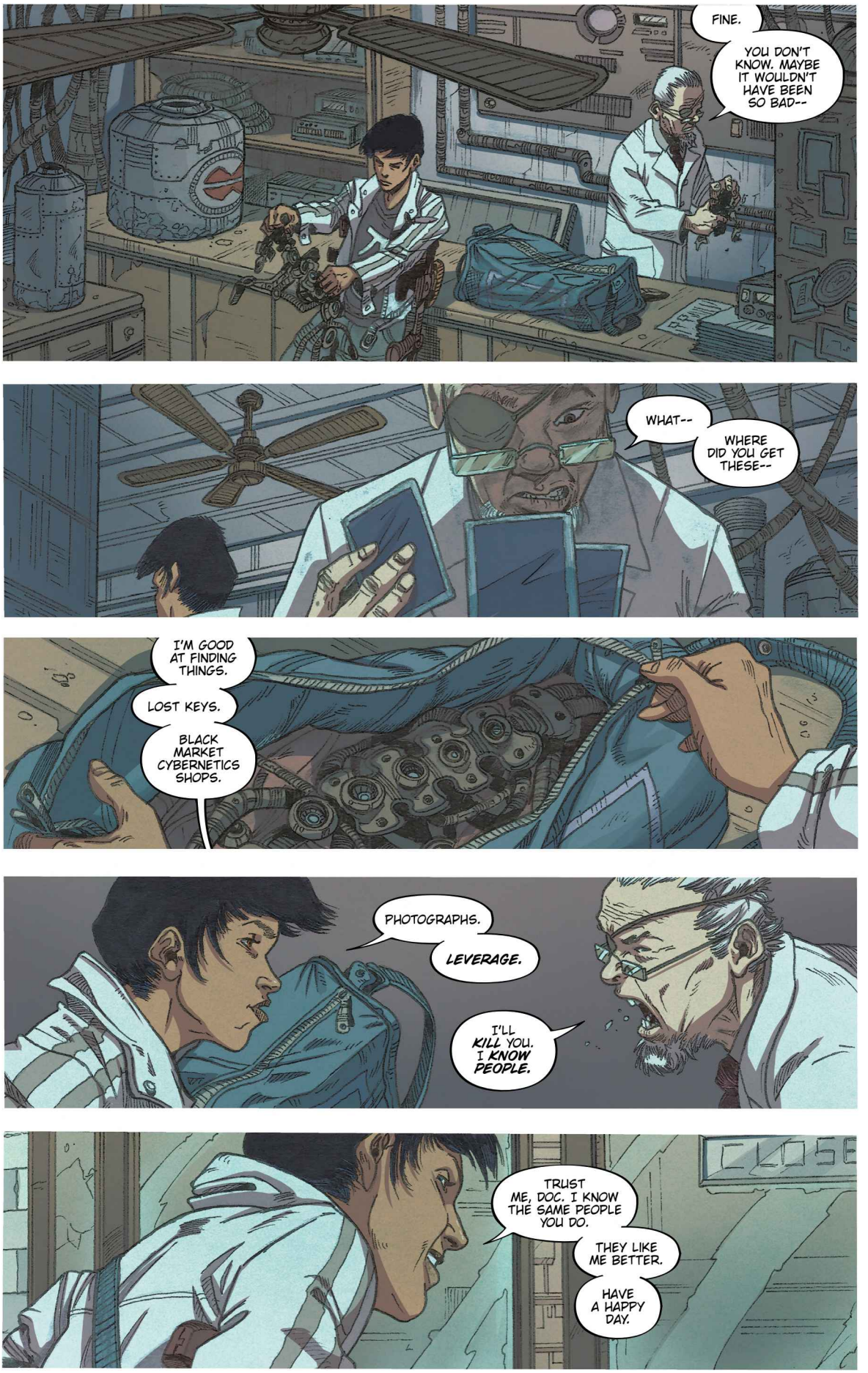
Tyrell:
They are, in a sense that is very real to me, our children. My children. Your children. [pause] And poor Lydia's children.

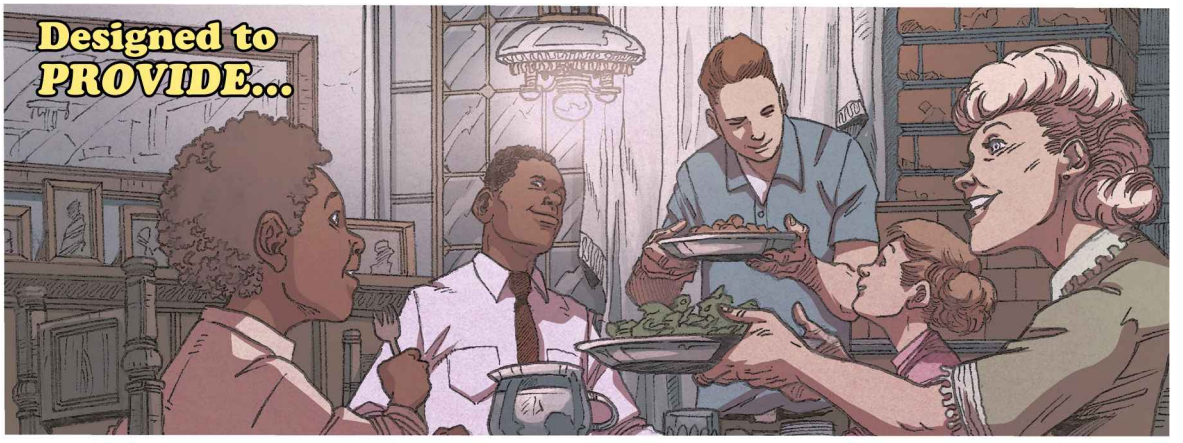
[PAGE 1/23.]

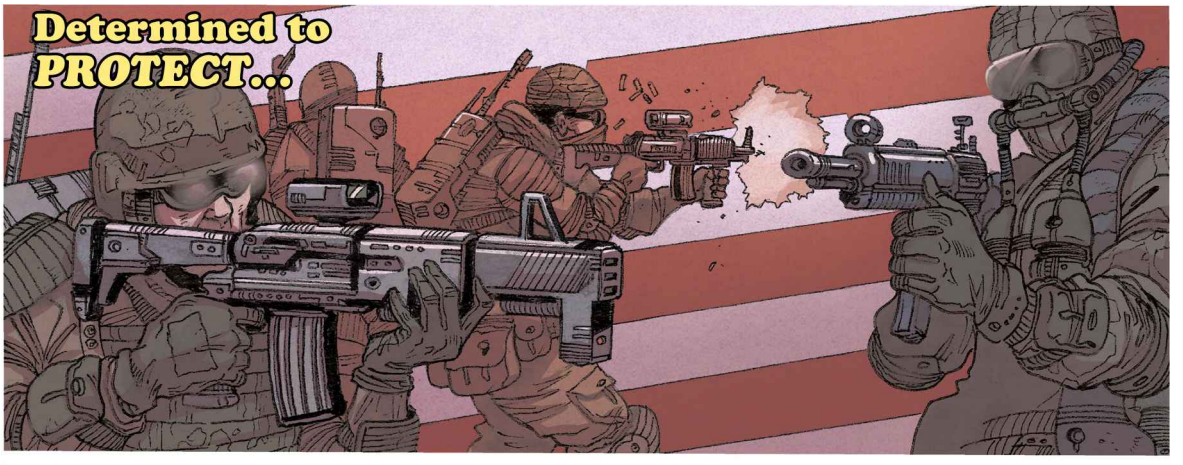
[FILE ACH-8370-a]

LOS ANGELES 2009

IT'S ASH.
AND YEAH, I'VE GOT MY BUNDLE.
FINALLY.
SO WHERE IS IT?
SO GRUMPY, ON SUCH A HAPPY DAY!
YOU'RE GOING TO WALK AGAIN, ASH.
I CAN ALREADY WALK, ASSHOLE. THIS JUST MAKES IT EASIER.
THIS'LL OPEN SOME DOORS I NEED OPEN.
YES. BUT. ABOUT YOUR "BUNDLE"...
I'D BE WILLING TO CONSIDER A DISCOUNT.
THAT IS, IF YOU WOULD BE...
WILLING...
TO...
JESUS, DOC, YOU'RE REALLY BAD AT THIS.
JUST TAKE YOUR PAY.

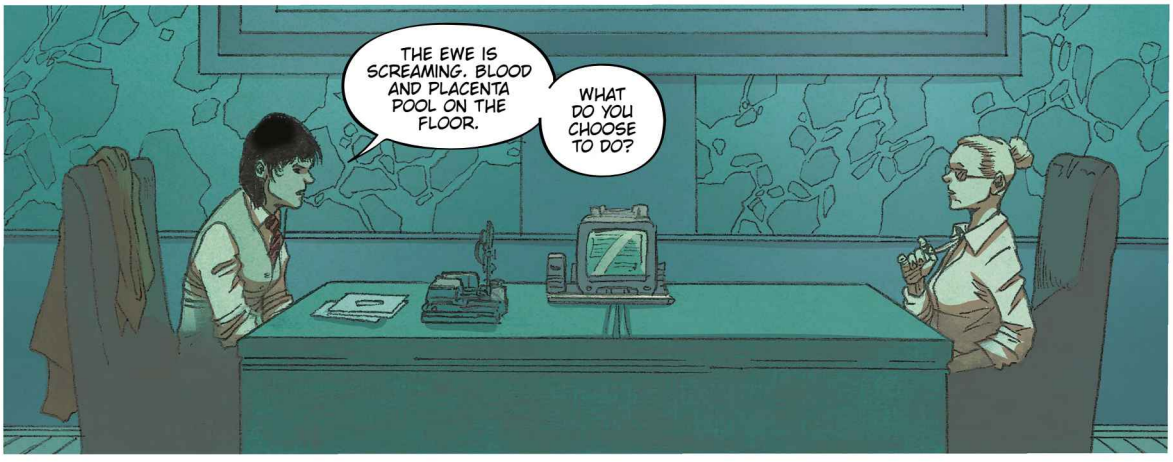

FINE.
YOU DON'T KNOW. MAYBE IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SO BAD--
WHAT--
WHERE DID YOU GET THESE--
I'M GOOD AT FINDING THINGS.
LOST KEYS.
BLACK MARKET CYBERNETICS SHOPS.
PHOTOGRAPHS.
LEVERAGE.
I'LL KILL YOU. I KNOW PEOPLE.
TRUST ME, DOC. I KNOW THE SAME PEOPLE YOU DO.
THEY LIKE ME BETTER.
HAVE A HAPPY DAY.
CLOSE

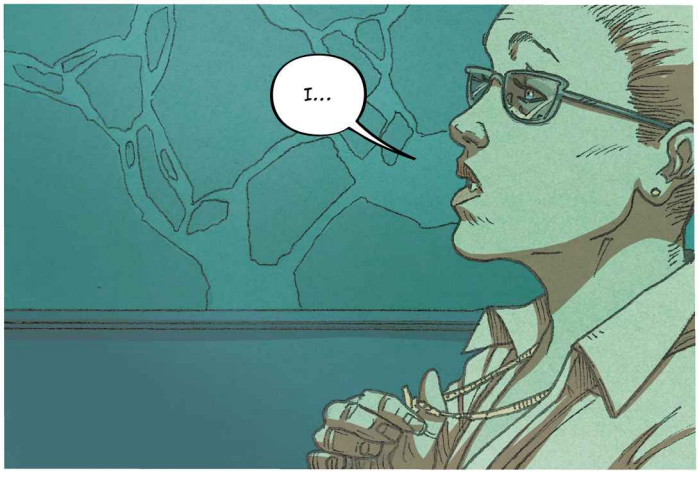




NEXUS-6
MORE HUMAN THAN HUMAN
NOW AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT
THE COLONIES

LOS ANGELES 2013





Mmm.
OKAY.
THAT'S IT? THAT'S ONLY FOUR QUESTIONS. I THOUGHT--
I'M HERE BECAUSE YOUR EMPLOYER FOUND INCONSISTENCIES IN YOUR WORK EXPERIENCE.
PEOPLE LIE ON THEIR RESUMES OCCASIONALLY.
REPLICANTS ALWAYS DO.
BUT YOU KNOW I'M NOT, RIGHT?
YOU ONLY NEEDED FOUR QUESTIONS.
DIDN'T NEED ANY QUESTIONS.
V-K'S A PROP FOR THE INATTENTIVE.
I CLOCKED YOU WHEN I SAW YOU.

THIS IS--
I'M--
YOU'RE JUST GOING TO KILL ME?! HERE?!
RETIREMENT UPON DETECTION. CLEAN UP'S NOT MY TASK.
CLOSE YOUR EYES IF YOU WANT.
YOU.
YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING SOMETHING GOOD.
YOU THINK WE DON'T HAVE SOULS.
WHAT HAPPENS TO YOURS? EVERY TIME YOU DO THIS?
HARD TO SAY.
YOU'RE MY FIRST.
END.

BLADE RUNNER ISSUE #9

Michael Green, Mike Johnson, Andres Guinaldo and Marco Lesko bring you

RETURN TO LOS ANGELES

The concluding chapter in the Blade Runner 2019 saga

ON SALE AUGUST 2020

CREATOR BIOS

MICHAEL GREEN

Michael Green is a film and television writer and producer. His work includes *Blade Runner 2049, Logan, Murder on the Orient Express, American Gods, and Kings.*

MIKE JOHNSON

Mike Johnson is a New York Times-bestselling writer of comics, animation and games whose credits include *Star Trek, Transformers, Superman/Batman, Supergirl, Fringe,* and *Ei8ht.*

ANDRES GUINALDO

Born in Segovia, Spain in 1975. Andres originally studied movie making (direction) at Madrid University before making the move into comics. His first professional work was drawing Joe R. Landsdale's *The Drive-in* and *By Bizarre Hands.* He followed those with *Pistolfist: Revolutionary Warrior, Helios: Under the Gun, Purity,* and *Cartoonapalozza.* In 2010, Guinaldo started regularly pencilling *Son of Hulk* and drew issue #5 of *Dark Reign: Hawkeye.* He followed this with *Gotham City Sirens #14-17, Joker's Asylum: The Riddler, Namor: The First Mutant #4, Red Lanterns #8, Resurrection Man #9, Nightwing #11-14, Hypernaturals, and Justice League Dark.* In recent years he's worked on titles as diverse as *Nijak* and *Captain America: Steve Rogers.* He currently resides in Segovia, the city where he was born.

MARCO LESKO

Hailing from Brazil, Marco Lesko has been a professional comic book colorist since 2014. His credits include *Rat Queens, Assassin's Creed: Uprising, Doctor Who, Robotech, The Shadow* and many more. When he's not coloring comics he spends endless hours studying color theory from many different areas, including: cinema, conceptual art design, Japanese anime, videogame design, and classic Disney animations.

JIM CAMPBELL

Jim Campbell is an Eisner Award winning letterer whose work can be seen on everything from Titan's *Robotech* books to *Roy of the Rover* graphic novels to the *Firefly* series. He lives, works, and very occasionally sleeps, in darkest Nottinghamshire in the UK in a house he shares with his wife and an unfeasibly large collection of black clothes.

FROM SCRIPT TO ART

WORDS | MICHAEL GREEN & MIKE JOHNSON
PENCILS & INKS | ANDRES GUINALDO
COLORS | MARCO LESKO

BLADE RUNNER 2019

FCBD 2020

BY MICHAEL GREEN & MIKE JOHNSON

(Page 3)

PANEL 1: Black panel with location and year, same style as the original title card:
LOS ANGELES, 2000

PANEL 2: Establishing shot of MacArthur Park, close to downtown, skyline in background. But in this version of 2000, the overcrowding of the city is well underway.

Around the water, dozens of food trucks and tented stalls peddle all manner of life essentials to the crowds.

COLOR NOTE: ***It's magic hour, close to sunset, the particular alchemy of smog and desert and humanity that turns the city crimson gold.***

2. NANI DIALOGUE CAPTION: "I see you, Aahna."

PANEL 3: Close up on a sheet of cooling cardamom cookies. Beyond the cookies:
TEN-YEAR-OLD ASH stares hungrily (we just see the top of her head and her eyes.)

3. NANI (o/p): You have to let them cool or you'll set fire to your tongue…

PANEL 4: We're inside the Indian food truck belonging to Ash's elderly but robust grandmother, NANI. She's wrapped in a sky-blue sari, a bindi on her forehead.

Customers wait expectantly across the counter as Nani addresses Ash.

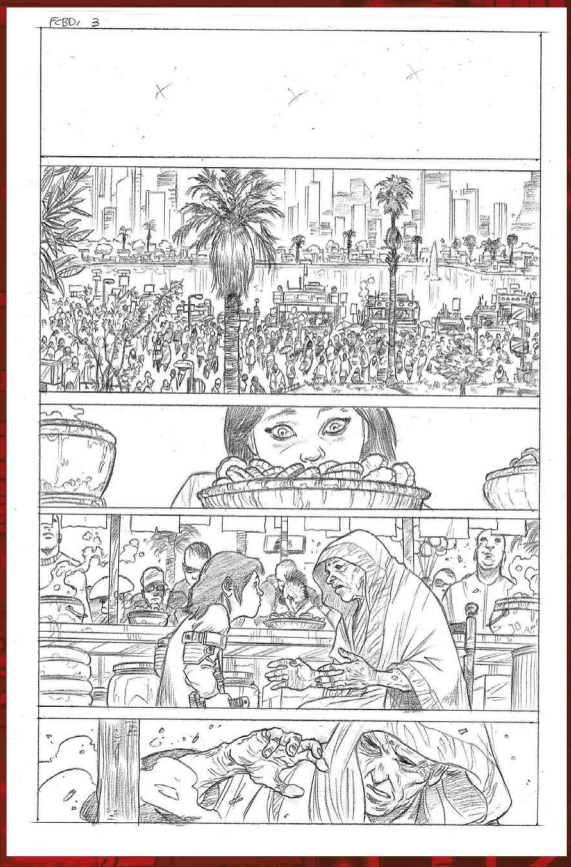
Ash uses two tiny arm crutches to stand.

4. NANI: …a fire so great that not even Vayu himself could put it out!

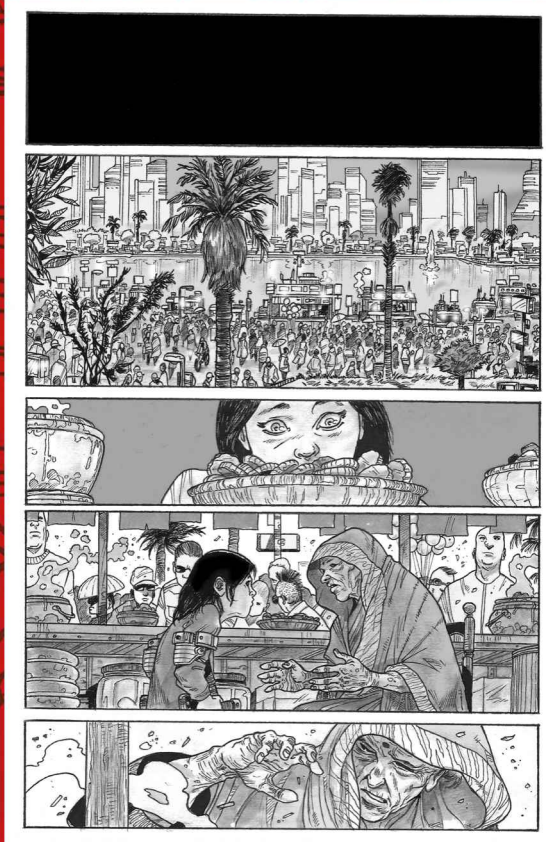
PANEL 5: On Nani as the wind suddenly whips up around her. She shields her eyes as her sari swirls.

5. NANI: - - oh!

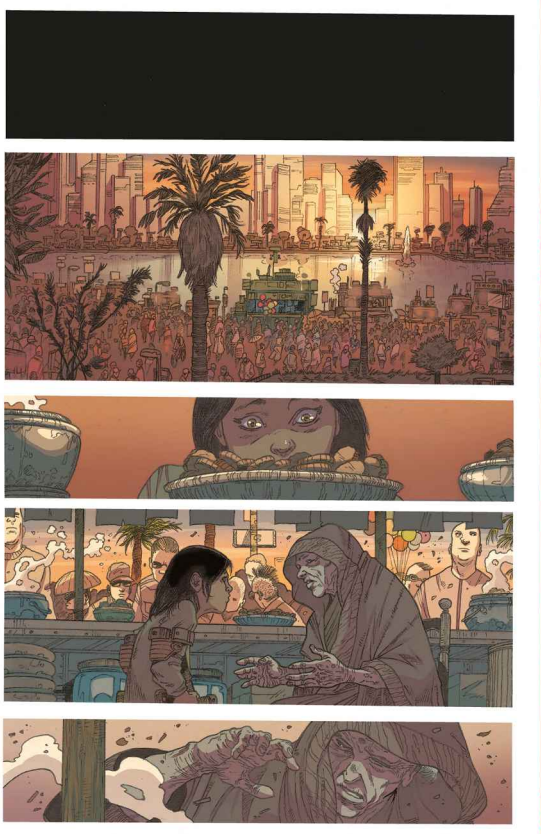
Layout



Pencils



Inks



Colors

FROM SCRIPT TO ART

WORDS | MICHAEL GREEN & MIKE JOHNSON
PENCILS & INKS | ANDRES GUINALDO
COLORS | MARCO LESKO

BLADE RUNNER 2019
FCBD 2020
BY MICHAEL GREEN & MIKE JOHNSON

(Page 7)

PANEL 1: Black panel with location and year, same style as the original title card:

1. CAPTION: LOS ANGELES, 2009

PANEL 2: Close on a human skull with a bullet hole in temple.

2. ASH (o/p): Is this real?

PANEL 2: Wider to see NINETEEN-YEAR OLD ASH. Futurepunk. Hair a bright blue pixie cut. She wears a white leather racecar driver's jacket, with silver stripes down the sleeves. Black t-shirt underneath with the Chinese symbol for knife on it in red:

She still uses arm-braces to walk.

She's standing in what looks like a vintage electronics store crossed with a dentist's office. And we do mean vintage: everything from Betamax to Victorola, crowding shelves along with various devices of unknown provenance or purpose.

It's not a new or a nice place to be.

As Ash picks up the skull and peers in the bullet hole, we see DR. ZHANG (Chinese, 50s) behind her. Patched white doctor's coat, glasses, thinning hair. The good thing about comics is you can't smell the body odor.

3. ZHANG: Oh yes. Bought it off a stall on Avalon. I'm thinking of starting a collection.

PANEL 3: Over Zhang onto ash as she turns to him, putting the skull down.

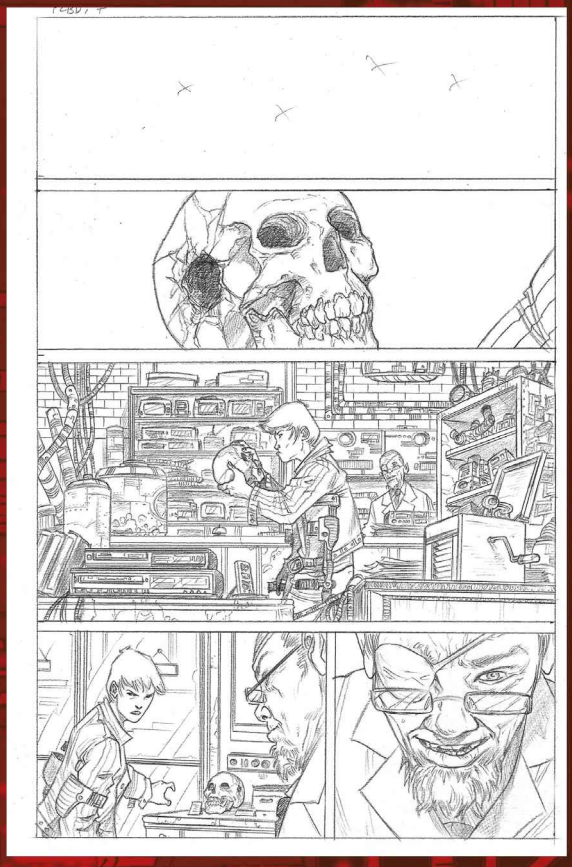
4. ASH: You're a weird one, Zhang.

5. ASH: You got my thing or not?

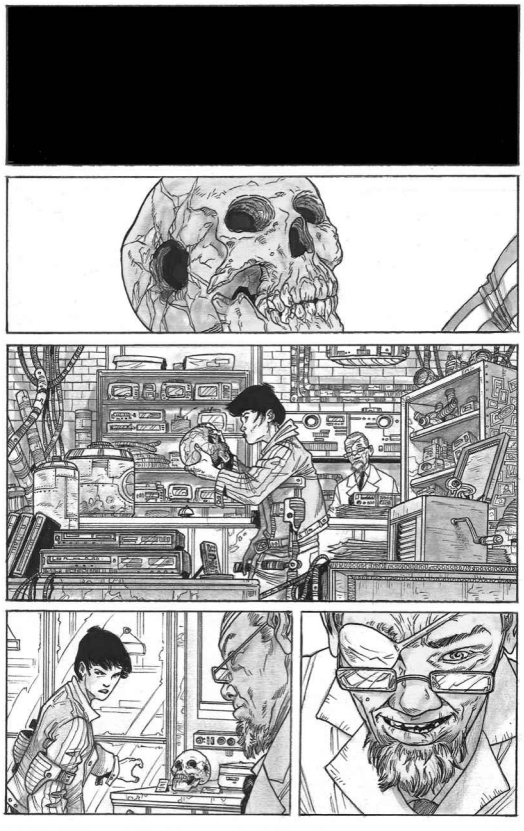
PANEL 4: On Zhang, creepy smile.

6. ZHANG: Can you finally afford it, Ashina?

Layout



Pencils



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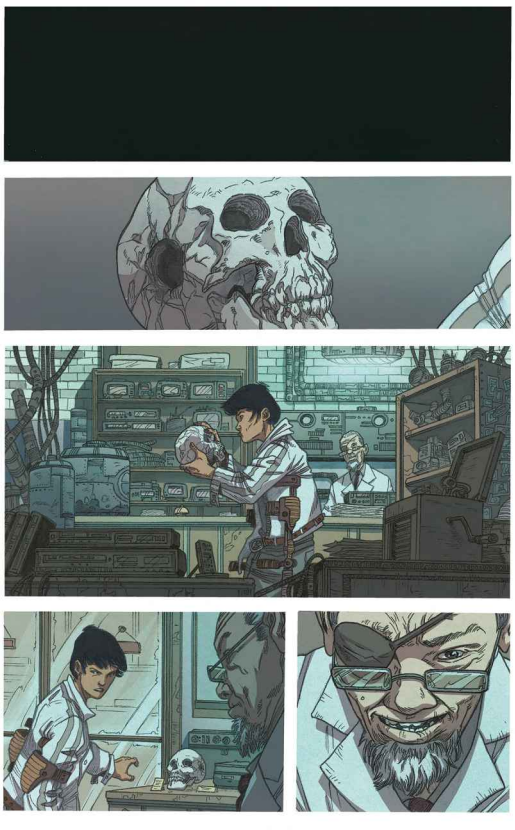

Colors

"Pretty perfect... it really captures the spirit, the feel and even the look of the classic movie, but heads off in a different direction, world-building as it goes."

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"Intriguing storytelling combines with an excellent look into a familiar world to tell a new tale in the *Blade Runner* franchise."

MULTIVERSITY COMICS

"A worthy new *Blade Runner* tale with a brand-new, very interesting lead character."

NEWSARAMA

"*Blade Runner 2019* hits the ground running in what looks to be a must-read new entry in the franchise."

AIPT!